

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/768,191	SCHNEIDER, MICHAEL	
	Examiner Shumaya B. Ali	Art Unit 3743	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to 8/9/05.
  2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
  3.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    - a)  All    b)  Some\*    c)  None    of the:
      1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
      3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.
- Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**
4.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
  6.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

#### Attachment(s)

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other See Continuation Sheet.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
Henry Bennett  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Group 3700

Continuation of Attachment(s) 9. Other: EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT AND ALLOWANCE.

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Timothy J. Klima on 10/3/2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

**-in the claims-**

1. **(currently amended)** A sports brace comprising an elastic woven or knitted fabric, which for a sport of the kind that is performed using the arm/hand can be secured to the applicable arm/wrist of the person using it by means of a closure, wherein the brace includes a plurality of distributed weights, each comprising one housing in which a plurality of freely movable solid particles are located, the solid particles of each weight being movable within the respective housing to counteract an impacting force on the hand/arm, a brace including a plurality of striplike chamber, in each of which a plurality of weight are disposed.

2. **(currently amended)** The sports brace of claim 1, wherein the brace is embodied in two-ply form with spacing between the plies forming the striplike chambers which and has a plurality of striplike chambers extending both parallel and transversely to a

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longitudinal axis of the brace, and in ~~each~~ of which chambers, the disposed a plurality of weights are spaced apart from one another ~~are~~ disposed.

2. The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant: figures 1,4,5 filled on 2/2/04 and figures 2 and 3 filled on 8/9/05. In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: As to claim 1, the prior art of record does not teach nor render obvious the overall claimed combination of a sports brace comprising one housing in which a plurality of freely movable solid particles are located, the solid particles of each weight being movable within the respective housing to counteract an impacting force on the hand/arm. Therefore, invention claimed in claims 1-20 is considered novel.

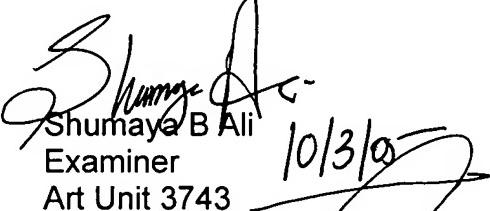
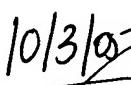
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

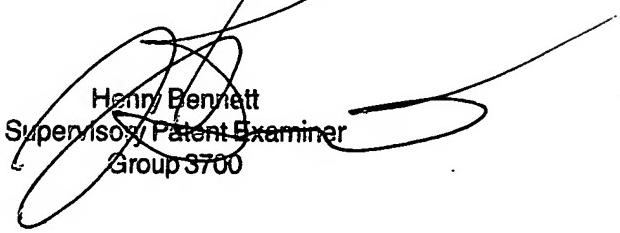
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shumaya B. Ali whose telephone number is 571-272-6088. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-4:30.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Henry Bennett can be reached on 571-272-4791. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Shumaya B Ali  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3743  


  
Henry Bennett  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
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